

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 FRB-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00  
XMB-04 OPIC-06 SP-02 EPG-02 OMB-01 PA-02 PRS-01  
/071 W

-----111704Z 125503 /43

R 102041Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3417  
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL  
ALL OTHER AMCONSULS CANADA (POUCH)

UNCLAS OTTAWA 03719

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ELAB, ECON, CA  
SUBJECT: UNEMPLOYMENT RATE RISES TO 8.3 PERCENT

1. SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT RATE INCREASED IN APRIL BY 0.2 PERCENT TO 8.3 PERCENT, ACCORDING TO FIGURES RELEASED MAY 10 BY STATISTICS CANADA. EMPLOYMENT LEVEL WAS 9,663,000, DOWN 9,000 FROM MARCH, AND UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL WAS 870,000, UP 14,000 FROM PREVIOUS MONTH.

2. INCREASES IN SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED EMPLOYMENT LEVEL RECORDED IN ALBERTA (UP 16,000) AND MANITOBA (UP 3,000). LEVEL DECLINED IN QUEBEC (DOWN 9,000), BRITISH COLUMBIA (DOWN 4,000) AND NEWFOUNDLAND (DOWN 3,000). OTHER PROVINCES SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE. EMPLOYMENT LEVEL DECREASED BY 6,000 FOR MEN 15 TO 24, BY 3,000 FOR WOMEN 15 TO 24 AND BY 7,000 FOR WOMEN 25 AND OVER. LEVEL INCREASED BY 7,000 FOR MEN 25 AND OVER.

3. SEASONALLY-ADJUSTED UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL INCREASED IN ONTARIO (UP 13,000), MANITOBA (UP 5,000), SASKATCHEWAN (UP 4,000) AND BRITISH COLUMBIA (UP 3,000). LEVEL  
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DECREASED IN QUEBEC (DOWN 7,000) AND NEW BRUNSWICK (DOWN 4,000). UNEMPLOYMENT LEVEL INCREASED BY 16,000 FOR MEN 25 AND OVER WHILE SHOWING LITTLE CHANGE FOR OTHER AGES AND SEX GROUPS.

4. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IN PROVINCES IN APRIL WAS: 16.8 PERCENT IN NEWFOUNDLAND, 7.4 PERCENT IN ONTARIO, 5.5 IN

SASKATCHEWAN, 9.1 IN BRITISH COLUMBIA, 9.7 IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND, 11.2 IN NOVA SCOTIA, 13.0 IN NEW BRUNSWICK, 9.8 IN QUEBEC AND 4.3 IN ALBERTA.

5. UNADJUSTED LEVEL OF EMPLOYMENT WAS 9,425,000, COMPARED TO 9,309,000 IN APRIL 1976. LEVEL OF UNEMPLOYMENT WAS 914,000 AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE WAS 8.8 PERCENT, COMPARED TO 769,000 AND 7.6 A YEAR AGO.

6. COMMENT: WITH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT HIGHEST LEVEL SINCE COMPREHENSIVE LABOR FORCE SURVEY BEGAN IN EARLY 1950'S, GOC WILL CONTINUE UNDER HEAVY PRESSURE TO EXPAND ECONOMY. BANK OF CANADA HAS JUST LOWERED BANK RATE FOR FOURTH TIME SINCE LATE 1976 (SEE SEPTTEL), BUT CRITICS WILL CONTEND THAT MORE DIRECT FEDERAL STIMULUS IS NECESSARY TO PREVENT RATE FROM GOING EVEN HIGHER. LOCAL NEWSPAPERS CONTINUE TO REPORT BLEAK JOB MARKET FOR HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES, AND WITH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE AT 14.5 PERCENT FOR ALL PERSONS 15 TO 24 YEARS, GOC MAY BE PRESSURED INTO EXPANDING ITS YOUTH JOB PROGRAMS. ENDERS

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** ELAB, ECON, CA  
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